

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 00548 131618Z
ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 EB-08 L-03 SSO-00 NSCE-00
COME-00 TRSE-00 SS-15 SP-02 INRE-00 CIAE-00
INR-07 NSAE-00 /059 W
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O R 131606Z JAN 78
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5904
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 0548

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: CASC, EINV, EFIN, NI, US
SUBJECT: AIG CASE

REF: (A) LAGOS 175, (B) STATE 08773

1. EMBASSY REQUESTED MEETING FOR AMBASSADOR WITH GARBA ON MORNING AFTER JANUARY 5 AIG-FMG CONFERENCE. GARBA REPORTEDLY RETURNED TO OFFICE THAT DAY FROM VACATION IN PANKSHIN, PLATEAU STATE. MEA ECONOMIC DEPARTMENT COMPOSED BRIEFING PAPER ON CASE AND FORWARDED IT TODGARBA ALONG WITH WRITTEN REQUEST FOR MEETING TO TAKE PLACE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

2. AFTER ONE DAY TENDING TO OFFICE BUSINESS, GARBA TRAVELED TO BENDEL STATE AND IS NOW IN GHANA. HE IS SCHEDULED TO RETURN IN TIME TO GREET NETO WHO ARRIVES LAGOS THIS WEEKEND. GARBA

WILL ACCOMPANY NETO ON PORTIONS OF HIS WEEKS TOUR OF NIGERIAN THAN FLY TO NEW YORK FOR U.N. SESSION. EMBOFFS HAVE CONFERRED WITH MEA OFFICIALS DAILY TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER ANY BREAK IN SHCHEDULE COULD BE UTILIZED TO ARRANGE AMBASSADOR'S SESSION WITH GARBA, BUT WE ARE GETTING NOWHERE. NEITHER IS ANYONE ELSE. HALF OF THE EIGHTY AMBASSADORS IN LAGOS HAVE PENDING BUSINESS TO DISCUSS WITH HIM. AS OF TODAY, WE BELIEVE IT VIRTUALLY
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IMPOSSIBLE TO FIT MEETING IN BEFORE ABOUZEID AND NOTTINGHAM END THEIR CURRENT EUROPEAN TRIP.

3. WE GAVE LEFEVRE LATEST SITUATION REPORT TODAY. DESPITE ASSURANCES OF COMPANY'S NIGERIAN LAWYER, HE STILL UNABLE TO RETRIEVE PASSPORT. LEFEVRE WILL CALL AIG NEW YORK OFFICE TO RELAY ABOVE INFORMATION ON GARBA AND CRYSTALLIZE COMPANY

STRATEGY. HE BELIEVES AND WE AGREE, THAT THE NEXT MOVE SHOULD
BE FOR AIG TO ASK AMBASSADOR YOUNG TO DISCUSS MATTER WITH GARBA
AT U.N. WE WILL ENDEAVOR ASSURE THAT GARBA IS TIPPED OFF THAT
YOUNG MIGHT DO SO.

4. WE WILL KEPT DEPT INFROMED OF DEVELOPMENTS AS THEY
OCCUR
EASUM

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Message Attributes

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